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DEPT. PASS TRIPOLI AND BENGHAZI

SUBJECT: LIBYAN REVOLUTION

1. ALL CAIRO NEWSPAPERS REPORT NASSER SENT MESSAGE TO LIBYAN REVOLUTION COMMAND COUNCIL, EXPRESSING UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT OF EGYPTIAN PEOPLE FOR LIBYAN REVOLUTION.

2. AL-AHRAM CARRIES FRONTPAGE REPORT BY HEYKAL AFTER 36 HOUR TRIP TO LIBYA. HE MAKES TWO MAIN POINTS. FIRST POINT IS THAT ARAB AND WORLD PRESS WERE WRONG IN CONCLUDING ON BASIS OF ONE SOURCE THAT COLONEL SAAD AL-DIN ABU SHUWAYRIB WAS LEADER OF REVOLUTION. HEYKAL SAYS THIS ERRONEOUS CONCLUSION PROBABLY RESULTED FROM FACT ONE OF FIRST DECISIONS OF NEW REVOLUTION COUNCIL WAS TO REINSTATE ABU SHUWAYRIB IN ACTIVE SERVICE AND TO APPOINT HIM AS CHIEF OF STAFF. HEYKAL DOES NOT IDENTIFY THEM BUT SAYS MAIN GROUP OF COMMAND COUNCIL INCLUDING ITS PRESIDENT RANGE BETWEEN 20 AND 30 YEARS OF AGE.

3. HEYKAL'S SECOND POINT IS THAT KING IDRIS DOES NOT PLAN TO REUTRN TO LIBYA UNDER CURRENT CIRCUMSTANCES ALTHOUGH CERTAIN INTERNATIONAL POWERS AND PERSONAL INTERESTS HAVE TRIED TO BRING PRESSURE TO BEAR ON HIM TO RETURN. AS EVIDENCE OF IDRIS' INTENTION, HEYKAL CITES CABLE WHICH IDRIS SENT TO NASSAR ASKING HIM TO INTERVENE

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WITH LIBYAN REVOLUTION COUNCIL TO OBTAIN RELEASE IDRIS'S DAUGHTER SELIMI AND HIS WIFE'S SECRETARY SAHAR AND PERMISSION FOR THEM TO JOIN HIM IN GREECE. IN THIS MESSAGE, IDRIS IS QUOTED AS TELLING NASSER THAT ALL RUMORS TO EFFECT HE PLANS RETURN TO LIBYA ARE WITHOUT FOUNDATION. HEYKAL REFERS TO PRESS REPORTS THAT BRITAIN CLAIMS THAT IDRIS HAD REQUESTED BRITISH MILITARY INTERVENTION TO RESTORE HIM BUT THAT BRITISH HAD REJECTED REQUEST. HEYKAL CONCLUDES THAT THIS IS BRITISH POLITICAL MANEUVER TO GAIN FAVOR WITH NEW LIBYAN REGIME AT EXPENSE OF OLD FRIEND AND THAT THIS WAS PRELIMINARY STEP TOWARD POLICY OF CONTAINMENT SIMILAR TO ONE BRITAIN ADOPTED TOWARD IRAQI REVOLUTION IN 1968.

4. HEYKAL CALLS LIBYAN REVOLUTION MIRACLE AND SURPRISE. HE SAYS THAT HE CAN CONFIDENTLY SAY THAT NO ARAB GOVERNMENT OR POLITICAL PARTY OR ANY OF ACTIVE GROUPS IN ARAB POLITICS HAS NOT BEEN COMPLETELY SURPRISED BY EVENTS IN LIBYA. THOSE WHO CLAIM DIFFERENTLY ARE LIARS BEFORE THEMSELVES AND BEFORE PAST HISTORY.
WILEY

NOTE: NOT PASSED ABOVE POSTS BY OC/T.